

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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1. A method of analysing data link messages, comprising the steps of:
 - a) receiving a plurality of data link messages;
 - b) assigning each data link message to one of a plurality of message groups such that each group contains data link messages of a specific message type;
 - c) within a group,
 - (i) tabulating the messages so as to align corresponding fields;
 - (ii) displaying the tabulated data.
 - (d) displaying a list of field contents for each field type, the list being filtered to remove repeated incidence of the same content.
 2. A method according to claim 1 wherein the processing is applied to all groups.
 3. A method according to claim 1 wherein each group contains all data link messages of a specific message type.
 4. A method according to claim 1 wherein the list is sorted.
 5. A method according to claim 1 wherein the group is filtered so as to display only messages having a particular content for that field type, the content having been selected from the list.
 6. A method according to claim 1 wherein the list is filtered to remove repeated incidence of content falling with a specified range.
 7. A method according to claim 1 in which the data link messages are

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tactical data link messages.

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